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[Plate I-facing title page]

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142 PLATE IV
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Our shepherd guide down mountain side to Paltinis, on journey from Borsec to Vatra Dornei. He was milking sheep at a "stâna."
Photo: H. J. Howard.

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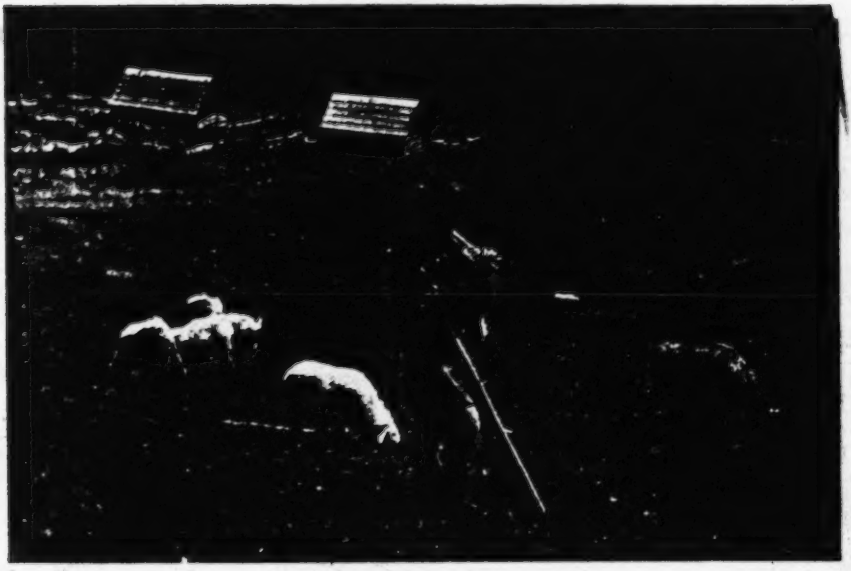

A mountain shepherd boy playing his wooden pipe near "stâna"—seen on journey to Paltinis.
Photo: H. J. Howard

[Facing page 25]

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PLATE VI

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A group of Corbu children. The girls are Roumanians, the boys Gipsies, the broad-headedness of the former contrasting markedly with the narrow-headedness of the latter. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

A group of peasants at the Borsec Fair. The girl in the foreground is a Szekler, her costume contrasting with those of the Roumanian women behind. *Photo: Miss M. Odlin.*

[facing page 45]

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Captain and crew. *Photo: Dr. C. P. Sandgrass.*

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Passengers.

These two photographs give a good impression of the gorge-like character of the transverse section of the Bistrita where it is cutting through crystalline schists. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

[facing page 48]

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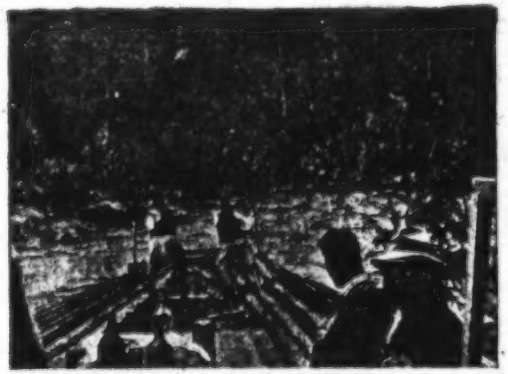

Shooting the rapids on the Bistrita.

Photo: Dr. H. Ginsberg

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Harvesting by hand on the level Danube plains.

Photo: Roumanian Press.

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Spinning with a distaff—an occupation symbolical of the traditional life of the Roumanian peasantry in the hill country.

Photo: N. I. Record

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231 the main flock being taken direct to the sheds on the foothills where they are fed on the hay gathered during the summer, whereas the remainder are grazed on the maize stubble until about Christmas. By then the weather becomes rather severe, and although sheep are better able than cows to withstand the rigours of a continental winter they are all kept in sheds during the early months of the year.

SURPLUS ANIMALS are disposed of at the autumn fairs at Tulgheş or Topliţa where they are bought up by dealers for conveyance to Italy or Czechoslovakia.

III. OTHER OCCUPATIONS

TEXTILES.

291
286 THE OUTSTANDING FEATURE of the Carpathian villages is the remarkably high standard of peasant craftsmanship. The degree of artistic expression revealed in their clothing is particularly striking, and although best seen on festive occasions it is scarcely less noticeable in their ordinary working garb. Wool, flax and hemp are the traditional fibres used, but imported cotton yarn is beginning to displace linen for some of the lighter summer garments. Most of the dyestuffs are obtained from local plants, for example, red
[286] from the leaves of the wild crab apple, yellow from the osier, black from the alder or birch and fawn from the walnut, but imported dyes are beginning to be employed. The mordant used is salt, but colours other than black fix themselves in wool without salt treatment.

462 SPINNING with a distaff is the normal occupation of the women in their leisure time during the summer, very little knitting being done at all. The other processes of combing, weaving and dyeing are also undertaken by the women, as is the embroidering of dresses and household linen, but the embroidering of the sheepskin waistcoats which are worn by both sexes is done by one or two men who specialise in this craft (see Plate XV).

LEATHER.

295 ALTHOUGH still made in the village, the old type of laced shoe with its characteristically pointed toe is being displaced

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PLATE XIII

A Corbu "stâna" occupied by transhumant flocks during the summer season. A deforested portion of the mountain 2,000 feet above the village has been set aside for pasturage. The buildings are very simple. The large hut on the left combines the functions of dairy and dwelling house, the smaller sheds in the compounds being used for milking purposes. *Photo. R. A. Pelham.*

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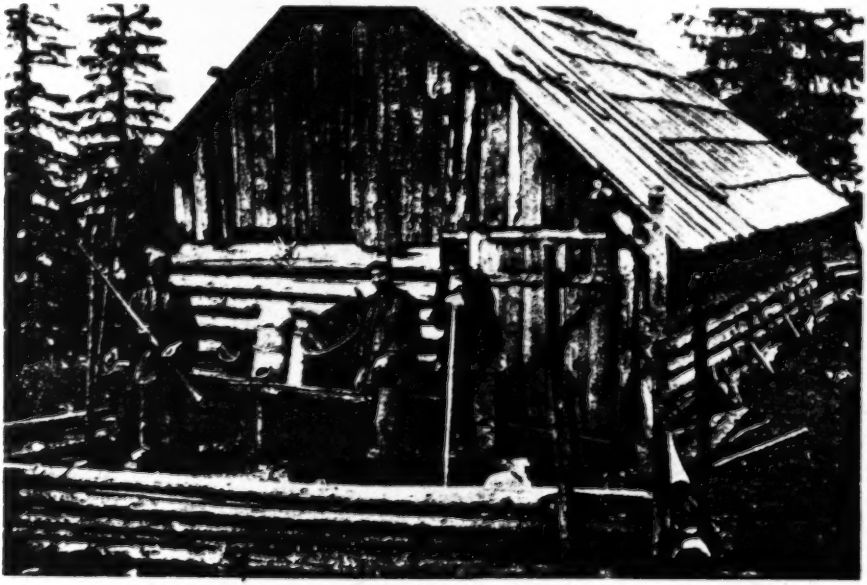

Close-up view of dairy showing adult members of "stâna" with their utensils. The man on the left is holding a horn. *Photo: R. A. Pelham.*

[facing page 72]

PLATE XIV

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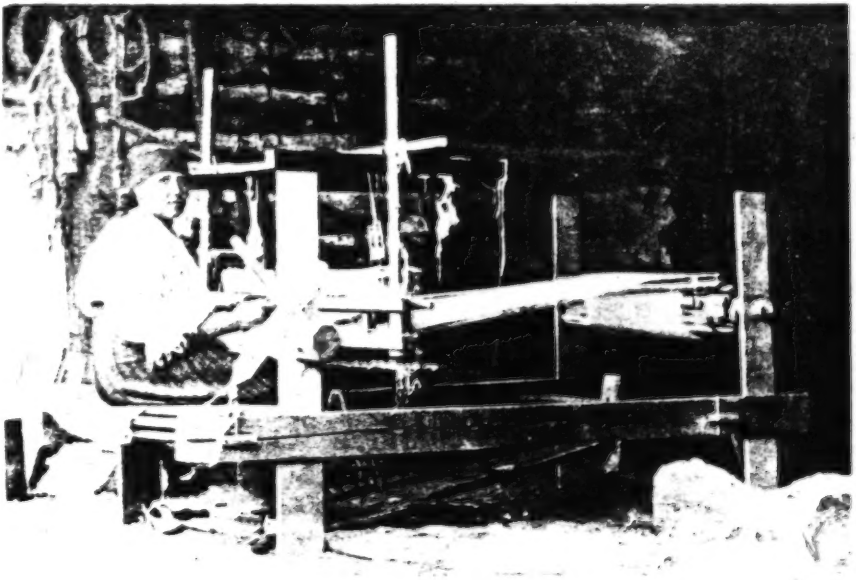
Woman combing wool for spinning at Corbu by drawing it through iron spikes fixed in a wooden bat-like handle. The boy is holding a distaff. *Photo: H. J. Fleure.*

[46]



Woman weaving on primitive home-made wooden loom at Corbu. *Photo: H. J. Fleure.*

[facing page 73]

4:Fleure S-5 (no date)1930 EDI Rumania EDI

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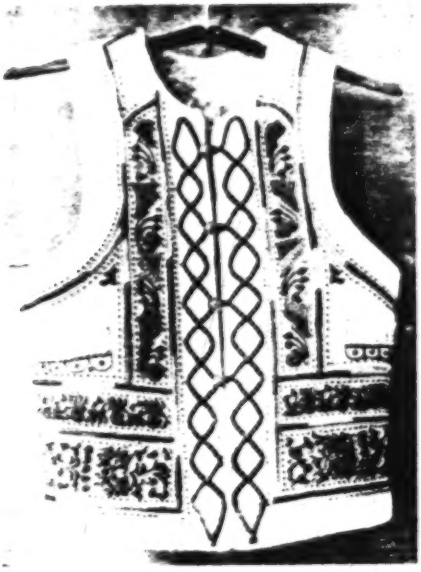
WOMAN'S SHEEPSKIN COAT

Front

Back

MAN'S SHEEPSKIN COAT



Front

Back

[facing page 76]

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Woman's embroidered blouse.
Photo. Wm. A. Parker

Roumanian peasant at Bran in the Transylvanian Alps. Photo. H. J. Mo...ard.

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531

Portion of girl's dowry, showing elaborately embroidered pillows and bed-covers.
Photo. Mrs. C. J. Mac...gh.

Plate XVI.

[facing page 77]

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5. THINGS SEEN AT BORSEC FAIR, AUGUST 20TH

[286] 1. MATERIAL BY THE YARD.

Cotton: Prints, calicoes, zephyrs, ginghams, men's shirtings.
Wool: Coloured serges, rough grey and brown woollen material (very thick) for men's and women's winter clothing.
Artificial Silk: In plain colours, Crêpe de Chine in plain colours, a very few printed silks.
Lace: Coarse white lace edgings (from Nottingham).

[291] 2. CLOTHING.

Men's: Trousers, coats, waistcoats, cloth caps, embroidered lambskin waistcoats, braces.
Women's: Knitted and crocheted wool caps and berets, patent leather belts. Printed cotton and artificial silk pieces for head coverings. Ribbons.
Children's: Babies' knitted woollen garments. Modern-style dresses in artificial silk with machine-made embroidery. Socks and stockings of cotton and wool hand-knitted in Roumania. Artificial silk stockings manufactured from yarn imported from Switzerland and France.

[295] 3. BOOTS AND SHOES FOR MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

Field boots and heavy nailed boots for men.
Manufactured boots and shoes for women and children.
Ready-made peasant shoes of leather.
Ready-made peasant shoes of leather with rubber attached to sole.
Ready-made peasant shoes made from old motor tyres.
Shoes of plaited felt of all sizes for women and children.
Shoes of knitted coarse wool with straps.
Pieces of leather of correct size for making the peasant shoes and leather thongs for lacing them.
Leather and mohair laces for using with the manufactured boots and shoes.

[415] 4. POTTERY.

Large brown glazed earthenware pots only. No other pottery of any kind was seen in the fair.

[295] 5. BASKETS, ETC.

Hand-made of rushes gathered by the peasants who make them. Some colour introduced into the larger baskets; strong, neat weaving. Also a few big hats as worn in the fields by the Hungarian peasant women.

[414] 6. GREENGROCERY.

Turnips, potatoes, yellow beans, cabbages, gherkins, carrots, onions, tomatoes, ardei, lemons, apples, pears, Indian corn, water melons, cantaloupes.

5: Fleure S-5 (no date) 1939 EDI Rumania EDI

NOTES ON THE HOUSES IN CURTEA DE ARGEŞ

342 THE SMALL TOWN of Curtea de Argeş has from time to time suffered destruction from fire, in consequence of which there is very little to be found in the way of early buildings.

The oldest house in the town is that occupied by the present mayor and his family, and they claim that their ancestors have held the property since about 1630, when it was built.

The illustration (op. p. 28) shows it to be a well-built brick structure with a fairly steep roof of dark brown shingles. The brickwork is whitewashed and is very solidly constructed. The present family uses the entire first floor as their dwelling-house. At some recent period part of the ground floor was converted into a restaurant. The spacious rooms under the balcony are used partly for the purpose of a store and the mayor has a private office there.

353 THE DWELLING has a peculiar and individual charm. The furniture is mostly in the traditional peasant style, and much of it is similar to that found in the simple houses, but shows a superior workmanship and quality. The bed, as in the living-room of every peasant, has retained its traditional place in this house, though in this case its purpose to-day is that of a divan or sofa. The coverings and cushions, hand-embroidered, and the woven wall-hangings round the bed, are such as may be seen throughout the countryside, though richer in the materials used and more artistic than most of those to be seen in the peasants' cottages, where often the primary colours are used with little attempt to grade the design by the use of intermediate shades. Small decorated patterns are to be found on the walls. The large living-room has an elaborate and beautifully-painted ceiling—a thing rarely found in the country houses. Modern sanitation, water-supply, etc., have been put into the house. The women of the present family choose to maintain peasant tradition in dress.

[336] [291]

342 The spacious balcony, approached from the courtyard, serves for reception of guests in summer. Here meals are taken, and a good many of the household occupations are carried on.

2 [See pp. 28a (HRAF paging system) -- Analyst]

5: Fleure S-5 (no date)1939 EDl Rumania EDl

TRANSHUMANCE IN THE SOUTHERN CARPATHIANS

233 221 In the Southern Carpathians we have a region which still retains its pastoral activities, little disturbed by the social and economic forces which have invaded the pastoralists' domain elsewhere. Few Roumanian villages are without sheep, and in the summer great numbers are taken to the high pastures when these become free of snow. This seasonal migration, or transhumance, is an ancient feature of European life, and a study of its forms and functions in Roumania not only throws light on important aspects of peasant life, but provides valuable comparative material for the study of similar movements in regions like western Britain, where transhumance survives only in a modified way.

● [291] Sheep are the pivot of rural economy in these Carpathian lands; the pastoral element pervades all aspects of peasant life—from the traditional costumes of woollen cloth trousers and sheepskin waistcoat to popular poetry and music. But the intimate contact with upland pastures thus ensured has been of deeper significance: it has enabled the Carpathian peoples to preserve their sense of unity when the lowlands were overrun by invaders, while the contacts maintained between summering groups have helped to preserve the Roumanian language and kept its dialectal variations within limits. In a very real sense, the Southern Carpathians are the heart of Roumania.

133 Physical conditions have, from very remote times, favoured the development and survival of pastoral life. The steepness of the forested valley slopes which isolate the upland core is in strong contrast to the gently undulating platforms which rise above the tree-line, at about 5,000 feet, and terminate in rugged glaciated *monadnocks* which may reach 8,000 feet or more (Negoiu, 2,544 m.). The prolonged erosion of Tertiary times which produced the upland platforms also provided the great masses of unconsolidated material—mostly coarse sands—which now form the extensive foothills stretching half way to the Danube over a width of some sixty miles. Curtea de Argeș is one of the settlements of this foothill belt,

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Two peasants at the fair. Curtea de Arges.

A hand-embroidered peasant ... ose. The back is as richly decorated as the front. Peasant woman at Curtea de Arges.

Curtea de Arges. Peasants in their richly embroidered coloured costumes arriving at the fair.
Photos by H. J. Hazard

[page 54-a]

12: Kormos S-4, 5 (no date) 1944
ED1 Rumania ED1

565 ease of behaviour, a keen sense for music and popular art and a dogged belief in its capacity to achieve progress.

The life of the Rumanian peasant is simple and [262] hard. His main nourishment consists of *Mamaliga*, a dish prepared of maize-flour, similar to the Italian *Polenta*. This forms his staple diet; meat and other [272] luxuries are very rare indeed. The national drink is *Tuica* (brewed from plum juice). The Rumanian [291] men are dressed in white trousers and a long white tunic fastened by a belt, a short jacket, and a fur cap or hat. Footwear, if any, consists of simple leather sandals strapped to the legs, called *Opinci*, similar to those of the Greek and Yugoslav peasants. In the comparatively rich regions short boots are worn. Gay embroidery, whose colouring and pattern vary according to districts, adorns all garments, especially the women's shirts and headcloths, and the aprons [342] which they wear fore and aft. In contrast to their gay dress the houses of the Rumanian peasants are usually small, badly built cottages of sun-dried brick and straw, whitewashed and occasionally [346] decorated with woodwork. The churches too are built in a similar fashion except in the mountain districts where stone and wood are used.

795 **RELIGION.** Most Rumanians belong to the Orthodox Church, but many Transylvanian Rumanians are Uniates, that is, Catholics of the Byzantine Rite. They form a link between the Latin and Orthodox 659 Churches. The Rumanian Orthodox Church is strongly national. The Uniate Church was used in the past by the Hungarian rulers of Transylvania as a means of assimilating the Rumanians in the Hun-

248 439 Paper, and paper mixed with hemp, are now used to substitute jute.

Although a comparatively large producer of soft hemp, Rumania normally needed to import about 2,300 tons of other hemps for special purposes, and the sources of these imports have been severed since her entry into the war.

Comparatively negligible amounts of coir were also imported in peacetime.

288 ●291 434 **8. Clothes Rationing**

Unlike almost all other Enemy and Occupied countries, Rumania possesses no official clothes-ration card, although purchases are restricted to a specific number of garments per year. Since 1940 the Government, anxious to avoid the necessity for a card rationing system, has adopted various means in an endeavour to overcome the shortage of textiles, particularly of cotton and wool.

Standardisation of fabrics and fixed prices were introduced in 1940, but clothing of standardised material was frequently unobtainable since the price did not leave the retailer a profit.

Army demands soon called for a great increase in clothing production, thereby reducing the stocks and greatly raising prices of civilian clothing—those for overcoats rose by 300 per cent. and for knitted goods by 400 per cent.—and the difficulty of importing raw materials soon reacted on the industry, so that by 1941 the textile shortage, particularly of bed linen, had become serious. Later in the same year, the Ministry of Supply blocked the sale of all semi-manufactured or manufactured blankets.

Early in 1942 the Government requested the public to purchase only necessities, ordering the industry at the same time to use cotton allocations for the manufacture of standardised bed linen and clothing only. Later in 1942 it was decreed that the annual allotment of garments per head of the population was two suits or frocks, one overcoat, three shirts, 12 handkerchiefs, three pairs of socks or stockings, one sheet, three towels. The sale of standard cloth was restricted to three metres per person per annum. For this arrangement, however, clothing coupons were not issued and purchasers were requested to produce their identity cards and a signed certificate of need if the purchase exceeded 300 lei.

291 435 Non-standard articles are still obtainable, but their exorbitant prices make them accessible to a limited section of the public only. Retailers are known to have refused the sale of standard cloth even when displayed, in order to secure, if possible, the higher profit margin for non-standard goods.

[565] The members of the public most severely affected by clothing shortage and high prices are industrial workers and the poorer urban population. Though the large firms are supposed by law to supply their employees with clothing (as well as food) at cheap prices, it is thought that this is not being widely practised.

Prices of all materials for men's garments have risen to such an extent that people cannot afford to buy even such goods as are available in the shops.

248 656 To counteract shortage of clothing fibres, peasants are being encouraged by the Government to increase cultivation of flax and hemp for production of the rough cloth suitable for peasant clothing.